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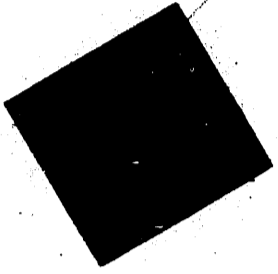
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EASTERN

F.O.
371



1947

PALESTINE

File No. 48

pp. 7167 - 7441

1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference: FO

371 / 61821

CLOSED
UNTIL
1978

61821

1947

346

Palestine

EASTERN

EY167 /G

E 7 AUG 1947 2

EY167/48/C.

F. O. Min

Dated 4 Aug
Received 7 Aug.

Conversation between U.S. #
Ambassador and Sof S on 2 Aug.
regarding illegal immigration

Last Paper.

EY166

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

61821

(Action completed.)

DF 12/8

(Index.)

✓
WPH

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

The first paragraph is particularly
interesting.

[Signature]
T. CASLEY
8/8

H. S. Bevis
Aug 8

sent 12/8
N. American Dept.

W.B. 9/8

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Reference:

FO

371

61821

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7 AUG 1947

E

Entire

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EYIBY

TOP SECRET.

7 AUG 1947

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION INTO PALESTINE.

The Secretary of State raised this question with the United States Ambassador on August 2nd on a private basis. He warned Mr. Douglas that the United States Government must not be surprised if matters went wrong when the Palestine question came up at the United Nations. We were disillusioned and disappointed by our thankless task as Mandatory, and might be forced to give up the charge. The Palestine situation was poisoning relations between the United States and Great Britain.

After instancing the recent demonstrations at Liverpool and Bristol in connexion with the murder of the two sergeants, the Secretary of State suggested that the United States Government should show their disapproval of the illegal immigration racket in the United States by laying down that monetary contributions to it in the United States should be subject to taxation. *→ discouragement* [discouragement]
gob

4th August, 1947.

Distribution:

Secretary of State.
Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Sir O. Sargent.
Mr. Wright.
— Eastern Department to enter.

1	2	3	4	5	6

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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group *FO*

Class *371*

Piece *61821*

Following document(s) retained in the

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E 7174/48/31
E 7175

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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182

E

4

E 7176

3 AUG 1947

1947

PALESTINE

Registry
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received
in Registry

E 7176/48/31

Frankfurt

7/4

24 July

8 Aug

Jewish Activities in Germany.
 State Jews in Frankfurt staged another anti-British demonstration on 23 July. About 1500 attempted to approach HM Consulate but were halted by U.S. Military Police. Protest was accepted. Great recent British action regarding 14,500 Immigrants in Breda Warfield.

Last Paper.

7175

(Minutes.)

Now see E 7181

References.

J 8/8

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action
completed.)

(Index)

Gamb 19/8

24/7/48

Next Paper.

7177

32008 F.O.P.

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Reference:

FO

371

61821

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CYPHER
(Paraphrasing
unnecessary)

IMMEDIATE
INWARD TELEGRAM

(This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on)

E 4176

3 AUG 1947

FROM FIAT 'T' FORCE FRANKFURT TO FOREIGN OFFICE (GERMAN SECTION)

No. 74.

SECRET.

24th July 1947.

D. 5.00 pm 24th July 1947.
R. 2.00 am 25th July 1947.

Repeated: Berlin (Political Division)

Following is number 07424 from MONYPENNY British Consulate General FRANKFURT repeated Political Division BERLIN.

My telegram number 33 of 25th April 1947.

Jews of FRANKFURT staged another anti-British demonstration on 23rd July. About 1500 attempted to approach H.M. Consulate but were halted some 200 yards away by U. States Military Police whose commanding officer accepted a petition from the demonstrators for presentation to this Consulate. There were no incidents. Protest was against recent British action in sending ship carrying 4500 illegal immigrants for Palestine back to France. Despatch follows.

Immediate Information:

Mr. ~~Chapat~~ de Saintonge.

Distribution:

PS/Chancellor.
PS/Sir Gilmour Jenkins (3 copies)
PS/Mr. Maurice Dean (2 copies)
PS/Sir Oliver Harvey.
German Internal Affairs (15 copies)

G/606.

2512.

SJH/GSG.

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371 / 61821

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Minutes.

E 6

You may like to see this before
entry. There does not seem to be anything
we can do about it.

Rochapout de Saintroy
25/7

Eastern Department ✓
German Political Dept. ✓ T30/1011.

A dispatch on this subject has
been received and marked to German (Pol.)
Dept. (E 5919 / 45/31 etc)

[Signature]
(S.E. CARLE)
28/7

locus. 6/8

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Reference:-
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371 / 61821

E

E 7177

7

1947

PALESTINE

8 AUG 1947

Registry Number

E 7177/48/31

FROM

J. E. Boulton

No.

Paris

Dated

15 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Received in Registry

2 Aug
8 Aug

Reopened Propaganda at Port de Boue.
At 11.45 AM telegram to Mr Foreign Affairs
in connection with "The Times" about reopened
propaganda to which French at Port de Boue were
subject. It is stated although propaganda took
place French have now issued orders to effect
that no further propaganda is to be allowed
and a continuous patrol of transport is maintained.

Last Paper.

7176

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

I think we should wait till
we hear definitely whether or
not the French promises were
for once ~~truly~~ followed by effective
action, before giving them any
"write-up".

J. E. Boulton
(J. E. BOULTON)

3/8

Yes

By Aug 12

10 Aug 8

x 10 Aug 14

(Action completed.)

J. E. Boulton
24/11/48

(Index.)

J. E. Boulton
24/11/48

Next Paper.

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Reference: FO 371/61821

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British Embassy,
Paris

E 7177

8

8 AUG 1947 2nd August 1947.

My dear John,

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs have received a telegram from Monsieur Massigli about the remarks by the diplomatic correspondent of "The Times" published on July 31st about the loudspeaker propaganda to which the Jews on the transports at Port de Bouc were subjected. I am not quite clear whether this telegram was on Massigli's own initiative or whether it was as a result of representations by the Foreign Office.

Monsieur Bousquet, who told me about this, attempted to maintain that the French had prevented this propaganda. I pointed out to him that this was not the case. On Tuesday, July 29th, two or three cases were reported to us of a vessel with loudspeakers having propagaed the passengers. I do not know exactly at what point this incident occurred as we spent nearly all the day at sea either in launches or on board transports. But we took the matter up with the Sous-Préfet in the evening and he later that evening telephoned to say that a boat with its loudspeaker had both been confiscated. The next morning we also received a signal from the O.C. Troops saying that a further incident of the kind had occurred. Kay and I at once went round to the Préfecture and protested, and the Sous-Préfet telephoned in our presence to the police, saying that their instructions were categorical and formal, that no hostile propaganda was to be allowed and that a continuous patrol of the transports should be maintained. I left soon after this and cannot say whether this order was effective.

Thus, though loudspeaker propaganda took place, it is fair to say that the French authorities made some attempt to stop it and I suggest you should bear this in mind in anything you may be giving out to the press.

*Yours
John Coulson*

J. E. Coulson.

J. G. S. Beith, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

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174/

E

E 7181

8 AUG 1947

9

AMSTINE

Registry Number

E 7181/48/31

FROM

R. G. Wrayberry
Consulate
Frankfurt

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

222
30 July
8 Aug.

Jewish Activities in Germany
Refer Frankfurt tel 744 (E 7176/48/31) now
transmits text of the protest handed the
U.S. officer for transmission to the
consulate.

Last Paper.

7177

References.

(Minutes.)

N.A. Dept. ^{12/8}
German (Pol) Dept. ✓ 2/14/48
U.N. (E) Dept. ^{19/8}
London 7/8

[Signature]
(T.E. CABLE)
8/8

Mic of Gen. Duff

J.B. King

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

[Signature]
27/7/48

(Index)

[Signature]
27/7/48

Next Paper.

E 7224

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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TS/1



SECRET

British Consulate General,
Frankfurt-am-Main.

E 7181

30th July, 1947.

No. 222

8 AUG 1947

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to my secret telegram No. 74 of the 24th July regarding the abortive demonstration staged by Jewish Displaced Persons in Frankfurt on the 23rd July, and to report as follows.

I have delayed sending this despatch pending further threatened demonstrations and incidents which, so far, have failed to materialise.

The protest handed to the U.S. authorities for transmission to me as reported in my above-mentioned telegram is as follows:-

Resolution.

We, Jews of Frankfurt a.M. gathered here in number of 3000 have been greatly disturbed and enraged by the tragic news that the greatest ship "Exodus from Europa 1947" with 4500 Jews on their way to Palestine in order to build peacefully our Home, have been brutally attacked by the English fleet and army.

This unprovoked attack has resulted in three deaths and 120 wounded. With bowed heads we stand before the new sacrifices for our sacred effort to reach our Home.

We express our sharpest protest against the cruelty of this English piracy which prevents the return of our people to our Home. We declare that we shall not yield nor shall we fear any terror. Nothing will stop us on the road to our Home. In spite of all obstacles and all dangers shall the Shearit Hapletah continue the Exodus from Europe 1947 and reach the shores of Eretz Israel".

The demonstrators rejoined their camps in an orderly manner and were thanked by General Duff for the peaceful way in which they conducted the march.

Little space was given to the matter in the locally published U.S. paper "Stars & Stripes" and no comments were made.

A permanent guard of American Military Police has been kept on the Consulate since the 23rd July.

As reported in my Secret telegram No. 75 of the 28th July, rumours reached the ears of the U.S. authorities that an attempt would be made to "blow up" the Consulate.

/ Apart

H.M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

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11

Apart from the arrest of the two Jewish D.Ps nothing has transpired.

A military guard has now been placed on my private residence by the U.S. authorities.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

H. M. Consul General.

H. M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

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371 / 61821

EY224 /G.
- 8 AUG 1947

Palestine
ALTERS

12

348
31
E 7224 /48/C

President Worfield

Mr Kay.
Marseilles
127
Dated 4 Aug
Received 8 Aug.

Last Paper.
E 4174

(Minutes.)

J. E. Cable
(J. E. CABLE)
9/8
10 Aug 9

References.
E 7165 /48/C

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) NP 9 Aug

(Action completed.)
25/9/8.

(Index.)
W.P.

Next Paper.

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FO 371 / 61821

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E
E 7224

- 8 AUG 1947

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1.

13

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kay. D. 6.50 p.m. 7th August, 1947.
No. 127.
7th August, 1947. R. 11.55 p.m. 7th August, 1947.

Repeated to Paris.

3 3 3

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

My telegram No. 126. *E. Green*

Five Jews disembarked to-day.

2. Officer on board has stated that in his view immigrants were frightened of molestation on land by anti-Jewish organisations if they disembarked voluntarily. It might therefore be advisable to [gp. undec: ?include] in statement referred to in paragraph 4 of Paris telegram No. 788 to Foreign Office, an assurance that Jews disembarking will be afforded protection by French authorities.

3. Officer Commanding Troops to-day refused to allow three [?gp. omtd.] representing Agoudath Israel de France to visit the transports. Purpose of visit stated to be purely religious.

4. "Ocean Vigour". Five members of catering staff insist on discharge 10th [sic] six Greeks, firemen and carpenter refuse to leave Mediterranean. Remainder of officers and crew will accept only a fortnight's extension of agreement to serve in French Mediterranean territorial waters or to take ship to Gibraltar, Port Said or North European destination. I have telegraphed Ministry of Transport accordingly.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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Reference:

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Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kay.
No. 126.

D. 7.03 p.m. 6th August 1947.

6th August 1947.

R. 9.45 p.m. 6th August 1947.

Repeated to Paris.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

My telegram No.125.

Five Jews disembarked today. Atmosphere
calm.

"Runnymede Park" is coaling at Marseilles
today; "Empire Rival" coaling tomorrow.

Your telegram No.113. No further doctors
are required.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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Class *371*

Piece *61821*

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E 7239 / 48 / 31

E 7258

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Reference: **FO** *371 / 61821*

EY260 / G

Palestine

349

15

EY260 / 48 / G

President Waqfi

Mr Kay
Marseilles
130
Dated 8 Aug
Received 9 Aug.

Last Paper.
EY224

(Minutes.)

Stable
(J.F. LABLE)
9/8
W. H. G.

References.
EY224 / 48 / G.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) 11/8 12 Aug

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/8

W/H

Next Paper.

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Ex 210

1947

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Kay
No.130
8th August, 1947.

D: Untimed Undated
R: 10.24 p.m. 8th August, 1947

Repeated to Paris.

G G G G

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Illegal Jewish immigration.

My telegram No.127 [gps.undec].

Six Jews all men disembarked today.

Yesterday two men who managed to board police boat shouted non - disembarkation propaganda to immigrants. As a result police are tightening up control.

[Copy sent to M.E. Secretariat].

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371 / 61821

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190 A NEXT 192

E

E 7290

PALESTINE

11 AUG 1947

Registry Number } E 7290/48/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. M. W. Cooper

Dated Paris

Received in Registry } 80H
10 Aug
11

Disembarkation of children at Port de Suez.
Refer Paris 61 798 (E 7258/48/31) which
Population Control went on board "Empire Royal"
and after examining the two cases of measles,
instructed disembarkation of all children, parents
all refused. Ministry will leave matters
for present, but if disease spreads, force will
be used to compel disembarkation of children.

(Minutes.)

See attached minute

D. S. Bent
Aug 11

W.B. 11/8

Last Paper.

7260+

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/9/9 dist. as on
E 7259/84/31
Aug. 15

Tel.) Marseilles 116
Rptd.) Paris 1809
11 Aug.

8) D. J. P. on
E 7259/84/31
15 Aug.
p. 7.0

(Action completed.)

9/19/47

(Index.)

12/1/46

Next Paper.

E 7291

32008 F.O.P.

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17A

'In' and 'Out' tets
by hand to:-

C.O.

H.O.

Admty.

M.I.S.

N/T

✓ Cal. Off.

14 Aug.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61821

Wasfield Jews

The situation at Port de
 Bone appears to have reached
 Stagnation point and it
 looks as if we should
 have to try our last
 weapon - a definite statement
 of an alternative destination
 other than Cyprus or Palestine.
 This will need a Ministerial
 decision.

I have started drafting
 a brief for the S/S but
 before it is submitted
 I think we must call
 for a final report from
 the men on the spot.
 W.O. & Co. agree.

J.S. Birn
 Aug 11

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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E 7290

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Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

11 AUG 1947

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Duff Cooper.
No. 804.

D. 1.11 p.m. 10th August, 1947.

R. 1.15 p.m. 10th August, 1947.

10th August, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean,
Marseilles.

IMMEDIATE.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my
telegram 29 and to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean.

My telegram 798. E 7290/47/91

Jewish illegal immigration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs state that Ministry
of Population's doctor went on board Empire Rival and
after examining the two cases of measles invited dis-
embarkation of all children. Parents all refused.

2. I understand that Ministry of Population
has decided to leave matters as they are provided no
further cases occur. But if disease spreads force will
be used to compel disembarkation of children.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office
and War Registry Admiralty for repetition to
Jerusalem and Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean]



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Registry
No. E7290/48/31

OUT FILE

20

Despatched

J.P.M. 11/8/47

Draft.

Marseilles
116

Telegram.

IMMEDIATE

Paris tel. No. 804 [7 Aug 10
: Jewish illegal immigration]

Repeated Paris
1829

Aug. 11.

Cypher

Please telegraph ^{urgently} in

Cabinet
Distribution

Consultation with O.C. Troops
your views as to ^{present} prospects
of inducing the bulk of
the Jews to land without
using force, which is not
practicable without the
cooperation of the French

Copies 11P

(10)

W.O. & W. Concurs

H.S. Beins
Aug 11

Govt We do not seem
from ~~present~~ ^{latest} reports
to be making progress

but I shall be grateful
for your estimate of
local situation before ~~submitting~~
considering future policy.

H.S. 11/8

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

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E7290/48/31

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO MARSEILLES.

No. 116

11th August, 1947.

D: 7.45 p.m. 11th August, 1947.

Repeated to Paris 1809.

A A A A

IMMEDIATE.

Paris telegram No.804 [of August 10th: Jewish illegal immigration].

Please telegraph urgently in consultation with O.C. Troops your views as to present prospects of inducing the bulk of the Jews to land without using force, which is not practicable without the cooperation of the French Government. We do not seem from latest reports to be making progress but I shall be grateful for your estimate of local situation before considering future policy.

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E 7291/48/31

and closed until..... *1998*

*delete as necessary

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EY293/G

11 AUG 1947

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Palmer
EASTERN

351 1947
31

EY293 148 K

President Warfield

Marseilles
132

Dated 9 Aug
Received 11 Aug.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

EY291

1. Marseilles 133

10 Aug

References.

Jable
(F.E. CABLE)
11/8

(Print.)

JB Aug 11

(How disposed of.)

2. Marseilles 134

11 Aug.

JB Aug 13

Both WS
8) 11P. 12 Aug

P.W. 2
8) 11P. 14 Aug

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

2F 12/8

W.P.H.

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Handwritten: EY293

11 AUG 1947

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

Code R

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

23

His Majesty's Consul General
No. 132.

9th August 1947. D. 9.15 p.m. 9th August 1947.
R. 1.55 a.m. 10th August 1947.

Repeated to Paris.

V V V

IMMEDIATE.

RESTRICTED.

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

My telegram No. 130.

One hospital case disembarked today. French
authorities have not been on board yet to arrange
suggested disembarkation of children. No
other developments.

1947

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plw

E 7293 G

24

Code R

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's Consul General
No. 135 D. 6.10 p.m. 10th August, 1947.
10th August, 1947. R. 8.18 p.m. 10th August, 1947.

Repeated to Paris.

0 0 0 0

RESTRICTED

Illegal Jewish immigration.

My telegram No. 132.

One hospital case disembarked today; otherwise
nothing further to report.

11 AUG 1947

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EY293

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[CODE R]

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's Consul General
No: 134

D. 7.35.a.m. 12th August 1947

11th August 1947

R. 9.40.a.m. 12th August 1947

Repeated to Paris

X:X:X:

IMMEDIATE

Restricted.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

My telegram No: 133.

No disembarkations today and [?grp.omitted]

to report.

12 AUG 1947.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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Palestine

EY294/G

11 AUG 1947 26

353

31

EY294/48/9

"Northlands" and "Fadueah"

Chancery
Madrid
to E Dept
275/55/47
dated 2 Aug
Received 11 Aug.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

EY293

Notes to: c.o. (Mr. Higham)
M.I.5 (Mr. Schen)
Cabinet Office (Cdr. Evered)

References.

E6652/48/9

and under p/l to: Paris
Bordeaux

(Print.)

Telegram sent to Bilbao (for San Sebastian)
asking for confirmation of report about
gun-mountings.

(How disposed of.)

8) Mr Higham C.O.
Mr Schen M.I.5
Cdr Evered
Cab 071

J.F. 11/8

9) Paris No 1064
10) Paris No
Bordeaux no 59 Aug 13
Tel) Bilbao 16
11 Aug
Rpis Paris 1586 Saw
Bordeaux 21
Rome 1711
Tunis 40
Algiers 54

11) Motion completed. (Index.)

DF 13/8

W.H.

Next Paper.

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Reference: FO 371/61821

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11 AUG 1947

BRITISH EMBASSY,

EY294

MADRID.

2nd August, 11 AUG 1947

(275/55/47)

~~6652/08/9
E 7240 /g
AUG 1947~~

27

Dear Department,

Our letter No. 275/38/47
of the 22nd July about the two vessels
"NORTHLAND" and "PADUCAH".

..... We now enclose a copy of
a further letter we have received from His
Majesty's Consul at San Sebastian on this
subject.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office.

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Reference:

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(COPY)

452-47(S/3)

British Consulate,
San Sebastian.

Secret

1st August, 1947. **28**

Dear Chancery,

Further to our letter 428-47(S/3) of the 17th July regarding the vessels NORTHLAND and PADUCAH and your telegram No. 8 we now have to report that as late as Wednesday evening the two vessels were still in Bayonne.

We have now received the following further information regarding the position of these ships.

Their total crews number about 70 and the vessels appear to have gun mountings on the decks, but no guns at the moment.

The Captains have been warned by the French authorities that they will not be allowed to take passengers on board at Bayonne, and this fact has appeared in the local press, copies of which we enclose. All the members of the crews of the two ships are registered as sailors, but some at any rate are reported not to have the appearance of being in any way connected with the sea.

All matters concerning the two ships appear to be handled by three men described as being between 30 and 35 years of age and of Syrian type. These three go under the names of Jean, Jacques and Joseph and they go practically every day to the establishment of a certain Monsieur Marcel Forque at Bayonne, but they separate immediately on leaving. They probably stay at the houses of certain Jews in Bayonne.

They and other members of the crews make frequent trips to Paris, Marseilles, Toulouse, Certe, etc. and it is supposed that the vessels would probably leave

Bayonne/

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Reference:

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Bayonne with only their crews on board, with the intention of picking up passengers at some Mediterranean port.

Meantime they are continuing their purchases as before and have now acquired a Deisel engine for a big launch carried by one of the ships.

The only preventive measure taken by the French authorities appears to be the posting of a gendarme and a douanier on the quay.

Yours ever,

Consulate

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
Madrid.

CC. H.M.Consul, Bilbao.

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Reference:

FO

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61821

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry
No. E 7294/48/G

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

J.E.C.

F.O.,

30

~~Despatched~~

1947

40 M.

Draft.

BILBAO

IMPORTANT

Confidential

Telegram.

No. 16

(Date) Aug 11

Repeat to:

Paris No. 1586 ^{59v} ~~Samy~~
 Bordeaux No. 21
 Rome No. 1711
 Tunis No. 40
 Algiers No. 54
 Madrid (Sany) No. 6259v

~~En Chair.~~

~~Code.~~

~~Cypher.~~

Distribution:-

Departmental No. 1

Copies to:-

I. I. P.

Please pass following by
safe hand to H.M. Consul
San Sebastian.

My telegram no. 14 [of 8th
August: Jewish illegal immigration]
 We have now seen your letter
 no. 452-47 (S/3) of 1st August about
 "NORTHLANDS" and "PADUCAH". If your
 report that these ships have
 gun-mountings on board can be
 substantiated, it would provide
 valuable argument for insisting on
 detention of "NORTHLANDS" and, if
 she puts into port, of "PADUCAH"
 as well. Please investigate and report

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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31 report by telegram. ~~It will be~~ You should ~~inform~~ make sure that gun-mountings are new and not merely relics of days when vessels were warships.

2. Please repeat telegrams and copy letters on this subject to us, Paris, Bordeaux, Rome, Algiers and Tunis.

[Signature]
11/8

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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green

32

E 7294/48/G

Confidential

Cypher/OTF

DEPARTMENTAL No: 1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BILBAO

No: 16

11th August 1947

D. 5.40.a.m. 12th August 1947

Repeated to Paris	No: 1586	Saving
Bordeaux	No: 21	
Rome	No: 1711	
Tunis	No: 40	
Algiers	No: 54	
Madrid	No: 62	Saving

X:X:X:

IMPORTANT

CONFIDENTIAL

Please pass following by safe hand to His Majesty's Consul San Sebastian.

My telegram No: 14 [of 8th August: Jewish illegal immigration].

We have now seen your letter No: 452 - 47 (S/3) of 1st August about "Northlands" and "Paducah". If your report that these ships have gun-mountings on board can be substantiated, it would provide valuable argument for insisting on detention of "Northlands" and, if she puts into port, of "Paducah" as well. Please investigate and report by telegram. You should make sure that gun-mountings are new and not merely relics of days when vessels were warships.

2. Please repeat telegrams and copy letters on this subject to us, Paris, Bordeaux, Rome, Algiers and Tunis.

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91821

253 1947 31	Palestine EASTERN	E7295/G 11 AUG 1947 33
E7295/48/C F.O Min 8073 dated 9 Aug Received 11 Aug.	Illegal immigration Conversation with U.S. Ambassador.	
Last Paper. E7294	(Minutes.) JB Aug 15	
References.		
(Print.)		
(How disposed of.) (H) to low No 1566 ✓ 12 Aug. ✓ 13 Aug. 7 co. P.M. L.P.		
(Action completed.) [Signature] 6/8	(Index.) [Signature]	
Next Paper.		

1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference:					
FO 371 / 61821					
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Registered 1 AUG 1947
No. 87295/48/G.

Very Top Secret

ET290
12

Top Secret.
~~Secret.~~
~~Confidential.~~
~~Restricted.~~
Open.

Foreign Office 34

12.8th August, 1947.

+ 3 copies

Draft. Despatch

WASHINGTON.

No. 1564

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

*Co
D.P.M.
L.P.*

When Mr. Douglas came to see me this morning I raised with him the question of Palestine. I said I had pressed him on a previous occasion to take some action on Palestine, illegal immigration, terrorism and the finding of money in America for this purpose, and had ^{also} indicated to him the embarrassment caused to us by what was being permitted in the United States. Mr. Douglas indicated that I should expect a communication on this subject from Mr. Marshall in a few days.

[Signature]

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Reference: FO 371/51821

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.

35

No. 1564.

12th August, 1947.

(E 7295/48/G)
VERY TOP SECRET

Sir,

When Mr. Douglas came to see me on the 9th August I raised with him the question of Palestine. I said I had pressed him on a previous occasion to take some action on Palestine, illegal immigration, terrorism and the finding of money in the United States for this purpose. I had also indicated to him the embarrassment caused to us by what was being permitted in the United States. Mr. Douglas indicated that I could expect a communication on this subject from Mr. Marshall in a few days.

I am, with great truth,
Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

C.W. Baxter

Mr. John Balfour, K.C.M.G.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Washington.

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Reference:-

FO

371

51821

Palestine

EY296/G

36

1947

354

31

EY296/48/C

Illegal immigration

H. Rasmussen
Danish H.F.A
to S.O.S
dated 30 July
Received 11 Aug.

Last Paper.

EY295

References.

E5001/48/C

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copenhagen

No 324

Aug. 16.

(Minutes.)

The Danes behaved very well over the "San Eusebio" thanks partly to energetic action by H. M. Ambassador, who brushed away all H. Rasmussen's doubts by quoting Danish law at him "in extenso." Please see E5956/48/31 for details.

Copy H. M. Embassy Copenhagen

Northern Dept. 6.4.13/1948.

[Signature]
(C.F.E. CABLE)

12/8

JB Aug 12

(Action completed.)

25 19/8

(Index.)

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Next Paper.

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Reference:

FO

371

61821



CONFIDENTIAL
PERSONAL

Dear Mr. Bevin,

In your letter No. E 5001/48/G of June 27th you have drawn the attention of the Danish Government to the Jewish illegal immigrant traffic to Palestine and especially to Sir Alexander Cadogan's note to the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Trygve Lie, asking that all Member States should take precautions to prevent the transit through their territory and departure from their ports of Jews attempting to enter Palestine illegally.

In reply I have the honour to inform you that, to the knowledge of the Danish Government, hitherto only one case of this kind has occurred in Denmark of which you probably already have been informed by His Britannic Majesty's Embassy here. The case in question was that of a foreign vessel, S/S "San Eusebio", which since last winter has been in the port of Copenhagen. The British Embassy asked for the assistance of the Danish Government in preventing her departure on the grounds that the Embassy had reason to believe that the ship was engaged or likely to be engaged in the transport of illegal immigrants to Palestine. The vessel was hereafter inspected by the Government Surveyor. As this inspection showed that the ship was not provided with certificate of nationality, trading certificate or loadline certificate the surveyor

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin P.C.M.P.
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
London.

8/3
11 AUG 1947

1. S of S
2. Eastern Dept.
P.J.I. Jr.Nr. 120.D.28.h.

Copenhagen, 30th July, 1947.

11 AUG 1947
E 5001/48/G

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Reference:-

FO

371 / 61821

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ordered the detention of the ship. The Danish Government are willing, should similar cases occur in the future, to take such precautions to prevent illegal transport of Jewish immigrants as they are able to under the existing legislation. In the same way the Danish Alien Control will take such measures as the legislation permits to prevent illegal transit of Jews to Palestine.

*Believe me,
Dear Mr. Pavia,
Yours sincerely
Sventer Rasmussen.*

RECEIVED
8 AUG 1947
SECRET

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Reference:-

FO 371 / 61821

197

1947

E

E 7298

11 AUG 39 1947

Registry Number } E7298/48/31
TELEGRAM FROM

No. Wuff Cooper

Dated Paris

Received in Registry } 180 Savign
July 24
Aug 11

Report by Jews to disembark at Port de Boue.
Refer Paris Et YH2 (E 6689/48/9). 1409 coach
issued communique stating representation in Palais
contacted some of members among passengers of
President Warfield while at stop and as a
result all passengers have never not to dis-
embark from transports in any circumstances.

Last Paper.

Y296

(Minutes.)

[Signature]
11/8

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

[Signature] 12/8

(Index.)

[Signature] 24/1/48

Next Paper.

E 7302

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO** 371 / 61821

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En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

E 40

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

E 7298

11 AUG 1947

Mr. Duff Cooper.
No. 180 SAVING.
July 24th, 1947.

R.12.5.p.m. August 9th, 1947.

6 6 6 6 6

My telegram No. 742. ^{E/g}

President Warfield.

Following is information telephoned to
Cable by Crossley to-day.

Haganah have to-day issued a communiqué in Paris stating that Haganah in Palestine contacted some of their members who are among the passengers of the President Warfield while the vessel was at Haifa and that as a result of their exhortations all the passengers have sworn not to disembark from our transports in any circumstances.

[Note by Communications Department: This was a missing telegram repeated at our request.]

11 AUG 1947
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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61821

EY302 / G

Palestine

EASTERN

41

355 1947
31

EY302 / 48 / C

Illegal immigration

Weekly File
9 Aug - 16 Aug

#

Last Paper.

EY296

References.

(Minutes.)

See within

1. Brussels 315

9 Aug.

[Signature]
12/8

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8] 11P 12 Aug

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/12/8

[Signature]

Next Paper.

(EY565)

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Reference: FO 371 / 61821

Cypher/OTP

E b/w

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1

FROM BRUSSELS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

EY302

42

Mr. Harrison.
No. 515

D. 11.16 a.m. 9th August, 1947

9th August, 1947

R. 5.40 p.m. 9th August, 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem

.....

My telegram No. 508^{E/9} of August 1st. Weekly report.

No change in shipping situation.

Please repeat to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 14.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office Telegraph Section for repetition].

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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Palentine
EASTERN

E7303 /G
11 AUG 1947

43

E 7303 /48 /C³¹

Case 99(s)

Suspect shipping: S.S. "Orania"

Dated 8
Rec'd 11 / Aug 1947

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

E7302
References.

Referred to Athens.
This has crossed our telegram to Athens and
Alexandria on E

JR
12/8

(Print.)

(How disposed of)
Rpd to Athens 14/8
Copied MESC
8) I.I.P.
14 Aug

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/12/48

W.M.

Next Paper.

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Reference:

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61821

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E7303
11 AUG 1947
44
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FILES

En clair

FROM CAIRO TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir R. Campbell
No. 99 SAVING

R. 3.15 p.m. 11th August, 1947.

8th August, 1947.

1000000

Following received from Alexandria.

[Begins]

SECRET

Addressed to Cairo, Saving telegram No. 8
Repeated to S.O.(I), Port Said.

Reference weekly report (Suspect Shipping) No. 12.

S.S. "GRANIA" (Page 8, Report No. 12) left Alexandria for Volos, Greece, on Sunday August 5th. Vessel had two passengers on board, Mr. John J. Courcupis, a member of staff of Agents, and Miss Antigone Camvassinou, schoolmistress.

[Ends.]

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

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201

E

E 7310

1947

PALESTINE

12 AUG 1947

45

Registry Number

E 7310/48/31

FROM

Le N Charles

No.

Rome

Dated

337

Received in Registry

14 Aug

12

control of illegal Jewish entry into Italy.
Refer (E 5001/48/9) transmit reply in original
to Dept of State from Consul Spary, re question
of frontier control, also translation
with covering despatch from Le N Charles.

Last Paper.

7306

(Minutes.)

Copies to:

C.O.

M.I.5

Colonial Office

usual names

References.

The Secretary of State's original letter is
in circulation under other papers.

I submit letter to C.O.

[Signature]
C.J.E. CABLE
16/8

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ Higham P.O.
Schen
Robertson
Erased. Sub off

Western Dept. (Italian Section) *Form 2/9*
German (Pol.) Dept. *CAI 99*
Du. Sept. 10th

I.A.P. D.I. Schen S.F. 217/2/832/DTS 2/9

Unfortunately this proposal has subsequently
been turned down by the C.O.

[Signature]
6/11

(Action completed.)

[Signature]
2/10

(Index)

[Signature]
2/10

Next Paper.

E 7339

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Reference: FO 371/61821

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E 7310

12 AUG 1947

British Embassy,
ROME.

4th August, 1947.

37/177/47.
Despatch No. 337

SECRET.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose Count Sforza's reply to your personal letter to him of 29th June on the subject of Jewish Illegal Immigration, together with copies of a translation of this letter and of the covering letter to myself from Count Sforza.

2. As you will see Count Sforza in his letter to you again raises the question of illegal immigration across the Austrian frontier and presses the Italian Government's suggestion that such immigrants as are caught in the frontier zone should be turned back to the British Military Authorities in Austria (compare my telegram No. 1505 of July 12th). In reply I am suggesting to him that, as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were informed orally when your telegram No. 1497 arrived, further discussion of this proposal should be deferred until Mr. Ruck, the newly arrived adviser to the Italian Government on frontier control has had time to study the situation and make his report.

3. You will also see that in his covering note to me Count Sforza has returned to the old theme that in acceding to His Majesty's Government's request to combat illegal emigration, his country is sacrificing its own interests. I and my staff have done our best to impress on the Italian Ministers and officials concerned that the best way of discouraging illegal entry of Jews into their country, which not only increases their refugee population, but hinders their efforts to bring this population under control, is to make illegal emigration through Italian ports impossible. We believe that the more important officials in the Ministries concerned have been won over to this point of view; but Count Sforza no doubt considers it politic to try to maintain that Italy is going out of her way to oblige His Majesty's Government. I feel, nevertheless, that it might be in our interest to encourage the Italian Government by allotting a quota (however small) to the Jewish "refugees" in Italy in making up future lists for legal immigration to Palestine, and I hope that you may be able to authorise me to give Count Sforza some assurance to this effect.

4. In other respects I believe you will find Count Sforza's reply satisfactory and that it represents in spirit the attitude of cooperation which we have met in practice among his subordinates. In my acknowledgement informing him that the letter has been transmitted to you, I have only made specific reference to the question of the Austrian frontiers on the lines of my paragraph 2 above.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
With great truth and respect,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

The Right Honourable
Ernest Bevin, M.P.
etc., etc., etc.
FOREIGN OFFICE.

Neil Hardie

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24078/363

CONFIDENZIALE-PERSONALE

47

A S. E.

Il Signor Ernst B E V I N, M.P., P.C.,

MINISTRO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI DI GRAN BRETAGNA

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

24018/363

Roma, 27 giugno 1948

Confidenziale-Personale

Caro Signor Bevin,

La ringrazio sentitamente della Sua lettera del 27 giugno scorso n.E.5001/48/G. trasmessami per mezzo di Sir Noel Charles.

Come ebbi occasione di accennare a Sir Noel Charles il Governo Italiano si rende pienamente conto delle preoccupazioni del Governo di Sua Maestà per la questione del traffico degli immigranti ebrei illegali diretti in Palestina, ed a tal fine le Autorità Italiane hanno mantenuto e mantengono un costante contatto con questa Ambasciata di Gran Bretagna allo scopo di controllare ed impedire - entro i limiti del possibile - tale afflusso clandestino. A tale scopo è però necessario poter anche contare sulla piena collaborazione delle Autorità Militari britanniche in Austria e in Germania, diretta ad impedire l'entrata in Italia attraverso i valichi delle Alpi di numerosi gruppi di ebrei, entrata che si è venuta recentemente e continuamente intensificando come si è già fatto rilevare all'Ambasciata Britannica in Roma, e a riprendere in consegna coloro che, nonostante la più attenta vigilanza, riescono a penetrare in Italia.

Come il Presidente Truman nel suo recente appello al popolo americano, anche il Governo Italiano, da parte sua

A S.E.

il Signor Ernst BEVIN, M.P., P.C.,
Ministro degli Affari Esteri
di Gran Bretagna

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61821

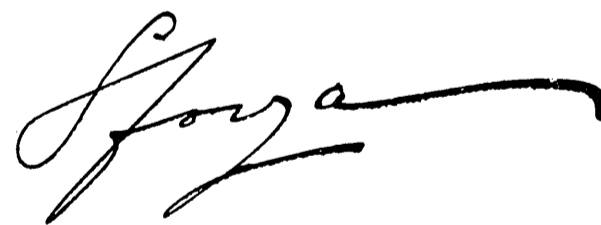
Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

49
- 2 -

auspica che la risoluzione recentemente adottata dalle Nazioni Unite, invitante i Governi ed i popoli ad astenersi dall'uso di mezzi pregiudizievoli per una pronta soluzione della questione palestinese, sia ascoltata da tutti gli interessati, e che nello spirito e nella lettera dell'Organizzazione delle Nazioni Unite si possano raggiungere quelle favorevoli soluzioni del grave problema, che, nell'interesse comune, sono desiderabili.

Sono in grado di assicurarLa che le Autorità Italiane cercheranno di continuare nei loro sforzi per evitare che il territorio italiano sia utilizzato per il traffico lamentato e sono assai lieto che il Governo di Sua Maestà apprezzi nel loro giusto peso le difficoltà che il Governo Italiano incontra sul terreno pratico e politico per risolvere il serio problema dei rifugiati stranieri in Italia, e La ringrazio per la rinnovata assicurazione secondo la quale, anche in tale materia, possiamo contare sull'appoggio britannico.

Mi creda, caro Signor Bevin, cordialmente suo



1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO

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61821

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TRANSLATION

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Mr. Bevin,

I thank you cordially for your letter of June 27th No. E 5001/48/G which was transmitted to me by Sir N. Charles. As I have had occasion to confirm to Sir N. Charles, the Italian Government fully appreciates the concern of His Majesty's Government in the present state of illegal Jewish immigrant traffic to Palestine, and with this in mind the Italian authorities have maintained and will maintain constant touch with the British Embassy, in order to control and prevent - as far as is possible - this clandestine movement. It is, however, essential to this end that we should be able to count on the full collaboration of the British military authorities in Austria and Germany, in preventing the entry of large parties of Jews into Italy across the Alpine passes, (a method of entry of which, as we have already reported to the British Embassy, increasing use has been made lately) and on their cooperation by receiving back into custody any, who may despite our vigilant watch on the frontier, succeed in penetrating into Italy.

Just as President Truman expressed in his recent appeal to the American people, so the Italian Government expresses the hope that the recent resolution, by which U.N.O. invited Governments and peoples to abstain from the use of methods which might prejudice an early solution of the Palestine problem, will be observed by all those concerned, and that in the spirit and letter of the United Nations Organisation it will be possible to reach the satisfactory solution of this grave problem, which is so desirable in the common interest.

I take this opportunity of assuring you that the Italian authorities will continue to make every effort to prevent the use of Italian territory for this deplorable traffic, and to express my pleasure that His Majesty's Government appreciates the full extent of the practical and political difficulties with which the Italian Government is faced in resolving the serious problem of foreign refugees in Italy, and I thank you for the renewal of your assurance that we may rely on the support of the British Government in this respect.

Believe me,
Dear Mr. Bevin,
Yours sincerely,

(Signed) CARLO SFORZA

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61821

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51

TRANSLATION.

Dear Sir Noel,

I thank you for your letter of the 8th July, No. 37/146/47, under cover of which you kindly transmitted to me a personal letter from Mr. Bevin on the subject of illegal Jewish immigration. I am forwarding the enclosed reply to Mr. Bevin, in which as you will see I renew the assurances which I have already given you of the favourable attitude of the Italian Government in this matter.

I feel bound to take this opportunity of emphasising that the policy which we have adopted in meeting the British requests, a policy prejudicial to our own interests in the general question of foreign refugees in Italy and of their migration from Italy to other countries.

My Ministry has already pointed out in their Aide Mèmoire No. 554 of April 1st, which was drafted on the occasion of Sir G. Rendel's visit to Rome, that we would find it difficult in the long run to continue with a policy which was in such direct contradiction to the needs and interests of this country, and we ask that in return we should receive at least an assurance that as soon as the issue of immigration permits for Palestine recommences, priority will be given to Jews at present taking refuge in Italy and who were already in the country on a given date, in order to prevent these refugees from becoming a permanent burden on our peninsula.

I take the liberty of drawing your kind attention once again to this proposal as it is one of vital importance to us.

Kindly accept etc.

(Signed) CARLO SFORZA

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Registry

No. E7310/48/31

J.E.C.

OUT FILE

27
52
29 Aug

Draft.

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

TO J.D.
Mr. Higham (C.O.)
from
Mr. Beith

Dear John

In his despatch no. 337 of the 4th August, of which I enclose a copy, A.M. Ambassador in Rome suggests that it might be in our interest to encourage the Italian Govt. by allotting a quota (however small) to the Jewish "refugees" in Italy in making up future lists for legal immigration to Palestine.

2. I should be glad to

Copies to:
Mr. Evershed (Cabinet Office)
Mr. Scherr (H.I.S.)

to be said for keeping the Italian cooperative by a gesture of this kind.

3. I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosures
I should be glad to have your views on this proposal. Please reply to Rome as soon as possible. There may be something to be said for keeping the Italian cooperative by a gesture of this kind.

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53 to

John and Sarah.

JB May 26

Yours sincerely
John Beith

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54
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

28th August, 1947.

OUT FILE

(B 7310/48/31):

Dear John,

In his despatch No. 337 of the 4th August, of which I enclose a copy, His Majesty's Ambassador in Rome suggests that it might be in our interest to encourage the Italian Government by allotting a quota (however small) to the Jewish "refugees" in Italy in making up future lists for legal immigration to Palestine.

2. I should be glad to have your views on this proposal so as to reply to Rome as soon as possible. There may be something to be said for keeping the Italians co-operative by a gesture of this kind.
3. I am sending copies of this letter and its enclosures to Scherr and Evershed.

Yours sincerely,
(Sec) John Beith

(J. Beith).

J.D. Higham Esq.,
Colonial Office.

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SECRET 55

Tel. No. 7310 48

REG. NO. 6050.

WHITEHALL 6789

BOX No. 500,

PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,

LONDON, S.W.1.

SF. 217/2/S.3.a/DJS

3rd September 1947.

~~SECRET~~

Dear Beith,

Please refer to your E 7310/48/31
of 22th August 1947.

For our part we see no objection
to the allocation of a quota of
Palestine immigrant certificates to
Jewish "refugees" in Italy.

Yours sincerely,

D. J. Scherr

D.J. Scherr.

J.G.S. Beith Esq.,
FOREIGN OFFICE.

Copies to: Mr. W. Evershed, R.W.,
Cabinet Offices.

J.D. Higham Esq.,
Colonial Office.

DJS/MTL

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EY339/G

Palestine
EASTERN

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EY339/48/C

Destination of Jews on
President Warfield.

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris
808
Dated 11 Aug
Received 12 Aug.

Last Paper.

EY303

(Minutes.)

References.

EY339/48/C

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

3) 11P

14 Aug

(Action
completed.)

(Index.)

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8

4/4

Next Paper.

We/

I attach a short note, to be sent down to the Secretary of State on Friday, explaining the necessity for a decision in regard to an alternative destination for the "President Warfield" Jews. It has the concurrence of the Colonial Office at a departmental level and represents the views of the Official Committee on Jewish Illegal Immigration.

H.M. Ambassador at Paris has more than once recommended that we should take the above-mentioned ^{decision} in order to have a final means of pressure on the illegal immigrants: Mr. Ashley Clarke suggested this course when he attended a Ministerial meeting on the subject in London a fortnight ago and the suggestion is again taken up in the telegram from Paris within. The short argument in favour of deciding definitely on an alternative destination is that the Jews have not believed our official statement that they will not be returned to Cyprus or Palestine.

The Secretary of State has not wished hitherto to take a definite decision about sending the Jews to Germany, wishing to exhaust every possibility of securing the disembarkation of the Jews by leaving the three transports where they are and giving the Jews a chance to become bored with their confinement. In the event, the Jews now appear to be confirmed in their absolute refusal to land and the possibility of contagious disease, upon which the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs were relying, appears to have diminished. Only two cases of measles amongst the children of one ship have occurred.

On the departmental level, both we and the Colonial Office feel that the critical moment for securing total disembarkation by the methods hitherto adopted has passed. No-one has landed in the last two days, whereas up till then there were always about five landings a day. Hence the attached recommendation to the Secretary of State.

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We need not exclude the possibility that, during the period when a final decision is being taken and while we are putting into effect arrangements for its communication to the Jews, some unforeseen and favourable development may make the announcement of an alternative destination, such as Germany unnecessary.

Cermany Political Dept.

H.S. Smith

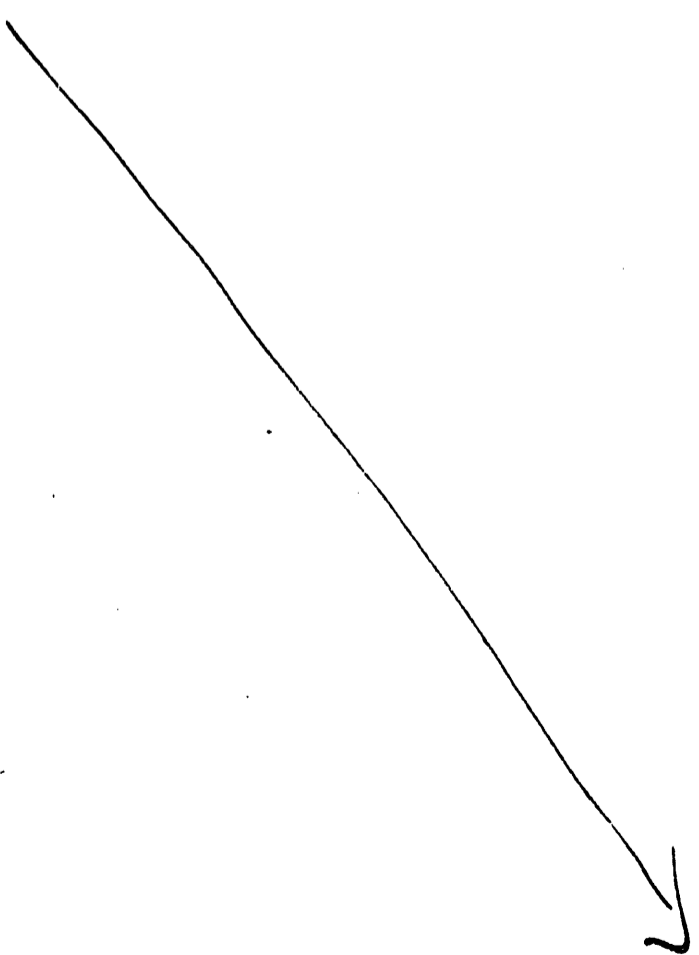
13th August, 1947.

(BEITH)

I think it is ^{now} reasonably clear:

- (a) that the announcement of their alternative destination offers the only chance of persuading the passengers to land at Port de Bouc.
- (b) that Hamburg, or some other port in the British zone of Germany, is the only practicable alternative.

H.B. Selby 13/8



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MR Burgows.

1. I attach a ^{by} draft minute ~~which~~ # Mr Beith which it is proposed should be submitted to the S/s. Mr Beith would like to have our comments as soon as possible.

2. The disadvantages of sending ~~back~~ three Jews to the British Zone are obvious but I will briefly recapitulate them: ^{in Germany}

①. Our authorities have repeatedly stressed that there is no room in the Zone for more refugees. Added to that they ~~repeatedly~~ bitterly resent it being used as a dumping ground for all the refugees whom we have no other place for. The C-in-C has strongly resisted our various attempts to saddle him with refugees from Italy & Austria. As a result he recently received a specific assurance from the S/s that the last refugee commitment he would be asked to undertake ~~was~~ ^{was} the reception of some 2000 Yugoslavs from Austria. Within 2/3 weeks of receiving this guarantee he is now to be faced with a further and even more onerous commitment.

② ⁽ⁱ⁾ The idea of sending more Jews to the British Zone is entirely alien to our whole policy in Germany in relation to the Jews. We have seen at great pains to 'seal off' our zone as a result of

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(The adoption by us of the principle that it should be

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which we have convinced the Jewish
 refugee population of the Zone to some 12,000.
^{number of these} These Jews are gradually being reduced by
 legal emigration. At the moment 'our'
 Jews are fairly quiet & relatively law-
 abiding. They are unlikely to remain so
 if they joined by the ~~4000~~ 4000 odd Jews
 from the President Warfield.

(ii) It is inevitable to ask our Zone
 to receive Jews, the vast majority of whom
 come from the US Zone. ~~It is~~ of course most
 unlikely to see the American that we will get
 the Americans to take them back.

(c) Sending these Jews back to
 Germany - the country ~~in which~~ in which they
 were persecuted - will have the worst
 possible effects from the propaganda
 point of view. It will also be an
 undignified spectacle for the Germans.

3. These arguments are strong,
 especially 2(a), and would be in contradiction
 if there was ~~any other satisfactory~~ any other satisfactory
 alternative (The Colonies ~~are~~ seem to be excluded. But has
 the possibility of them being distributed in
 the UK been considered?). However, in
 view of an alternative, Germany seems to
 be the only possibility.

4. The disadvantages to disembarkation
 in Germany would be much smaller if
 we could assure our authorities there that
 the French would in fact accept these
 Refugees back into France via Germany
 & even if precisely sent ~~there~~ there by us.

5. I would therefore suggest that
 the last paragraph but one of the

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Minutes.

②
minute in the s/s should include a recommendation that our Embassy in Paris should at once put on, if ~~not~~ ^{at} all our efforts to make these Jews disembark at Port de Bouc rail, whether the French will accept them ~~if sent~~ via Germany.

I would also suggest that it should include recommendations ~~to the effect that:~~

① ~~Germany~~ ~~the British Zone~~ should ~~not~~ ~~offer~~ The British Zone should in no event be placed in this position again.

② Early warning should be given to ~~the~~ our authorities in Germany about our proposals to disembark these Jews at a German port ~~that they should be invited to do so~~ (This is necessary if they are to have time to make the necessary technical ^{preparations} arrangements at the port of disembarkation which are essential if this mass disembarkation is not going to result in very unpleasant incidents).

J. L. White O/M.

I agree strongly with Lord Jellicoe's arguments, the substance of which should, I suggest, be included in any paper sent to the S. of S.

The Germans are already saying that we are finding out

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Minutes.

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rather late that Hitler was
right about the Jews & when they
see us behaving towards them in
a somewhat similar manner
their views will be confirmed.

I think Lord Pakenham should
see the papers before they go to
the S. of S.

BA B Burrows

13.8

I have amended the draft brief
to take account of German Dept's
views, but maintaining the Official
Committee's recommendation

J. S. Bevin
Aug 14

W. J. Foster
14/8

Brief approved by Sir O. J. Sargent
& S/S. Action taken JD Aug 18

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Jewish illegal immigrants ex "President Warfield"
who have been returned to Port de Bouc.

The Official Committee on Jewish Illegal Immigration recommend that a decision should now be taken in regard to an alternative destination for the 4,500 Jewish illegal immigrants at Port de Bouc. A decision is urgent for the following reasons:-

- (a) The British troops guarding the immigrants have now been confined on the three transports for over three weeks and the same applies to the merchant seamen and caterers. The latter have already caused considerable difficulty and, though the troops' morale is still satisfactory, we cannot expect too much of them.
- (b) The Palestine authorities are denuded of the transport necessary for shipping away any illegal immigrants who may turn up in the meanwhile. New ships would take at least six weeks to fit up. The articles of one of the transports expire on August 24th and a new crew would have to be sent out if she were not at sea by that date.
- (c) The Colonial Secretary is leaving for the West Indies on the 17th August.
- (d) H.M. Ambassador at Paris reports that the situation has reached stagnation-point and that the only chance of breaking the deadlock is to announce a definite destination to the Jews and give them time to think it over.

We have not abandoned all hope of securing the disembarkation of the Jews (only about 130 have so far landed) and the decision sought would give us a final opportunity of securing disembarkation.

Only two destinations have been seriously considered: the British Zone of Germany and parts of the Colonial Empire. The Colonial Office state that there is no sufficient accommodation for this large number of Jews in any part of the Colonies at short notice and such a destination would have the disadvantage that we should completely fail to establish the principle of refoulement. Germany has the advantage that accommodation exists and, provided the French authorities maintain their offer of hospitality, we should have a chance of returning the Jews to France through the British Zone, thereby securing refoulement and relieving the British Zone of responsibility.

The German Political Department have pointed out the following disadvantages inherent in sending these Jews back to Hamburg: first, that Sir Sholto Douglas was recently assured he had been called upon to fulfil his last commitments in regard to housing refugees; secondly, that it is our normal policy to keep Jews out of our Zone; and thirdly, that we shall be much criticised for this decision. They recommend that we concentrate on getting the Jews back to France, via the British Zone of Germany, that we should again promise Sir Sholto Douglas that this is the last batch of refugees he will have to accept, and that we should give him

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early warning of the proposed date and place of disembarkation. As regards the proposed assurance to Sir Sholto Douglas, it should be borne in mind that further cases of this nature may occur and that H.M. Government may be compelled to take similar action again. It might therefore be wiser not to tie our hands on this point.

A decision to send the Jews to Hamburg gives us two further chances of returning them to France and establishing the principle of refoulement:

- (a) by further persuasion at Port de Bouc on the basis of our announcement of final destination;
- (b) by sending them by train through the British Zone to France.

Failing that, such a decision returns the Jews approximately to their place of origin and acts as a strong deterrent to the illegal immigration traffic.

We therefore recommend the following action:-

- (1) Inform Berlin of the decision taken in principle to send the Jews to Hamburg if they finally refuse to land in the South of France.
- (2) Instruct the Embassy at Paris to request the French Government to accept the Jews back by train via the British Zone of Germany. We could point out to them that the difficulties of forcible disembarkation would thereby be greatly diminished.
- (3) Inform the Jews that their next destination is Hamburg and give them a time limit of, say, 48 hours to land voluntarily in the South of France.
- (4) Inform the Jewish Agency accordingly and request their help in sparing these refugees further confinement and suffering by encouraging them to disembark.
- (5) Issue guidance to the press fully explaining our point of view, i.e. that the Jews have had every encouragement to land in France, that in face of their continued refusal we cannot leave the transports indefinitely at Port de Bouc and that we are sending the Jews to the only place within our jurisdiction where there is adequate accommodation for them outside Cyprus and Palestine.

M. Wright

14th August, 1947.

Sir O Sargent

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EY339

12 AUG 1947

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP. CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Duff Cooper. D. 2.58 p.m. 11th August, 1947.
No. 808.

R. 3.55 p.m. 11th August, 1947.

11th August, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Marseilles,
Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean.

IMMEDIATE.

LIGHT.

Foreign Office please repeat to Jerusalem as my telegram No.30 and to Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean.

My telegram No.764.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

Ships have now been at Port de Bouc for two weeks. Only some 120 persons have disembarked and there is no sign of a change of heart as regards general disembarkation. French Health Authorities' plan to disembark children from Ocean Vigour seems unlikely to produce results. I conclude therefore that only remaining possibility of inducing immigrants to disembark is if they are informed definitely of their ultimate destination and given a time limit in which to opt for remaining in France. This time limit should be long enough to permit Jewish organisations in France to have second thoughts.

2. Ships obviously cannot be kept indefinitely at Port de Bouc. They are needed in Palestine and there are already difficulties owing to expiry of contracts of staff and refusal of some members of crew to proceed outside Mediterranean (see Marseilles telegram No.127 to you). Discipline of troops which has been admirable may also become affected since some are due shortly for discharge or leave.

3. I would urge therefore that decision as to destination of those who have not disembarked should be taken without further delay and arrangements concerted for making last minute appeal as effective as possible.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, and War Registry Admiralty for repetition to Jerusalem and Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean]

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 Palestine
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 EY345/G
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EY345/48/C
 Mr Coulson
 Paris
 with Keith
 dated 8 Aug
 received 12 Aug.

Account of events during period
 in which passengers from
 President warfield arrived at
 Port de Boue.

Last Paper.
 EY344

(Minutes.)
 Copy Co. (Mr Higham)

References.

Ch. of. (Cmdr. Evershel)
 Aukt. to Mr Coulson sent
 12.1. sent
 Aug 13

(Print.)

* 210071
 (How disposed of Aug 15.
 Mr Coulson
 Paris
 from Mr Keith
 14 Aug

(Action completed.) 27/18	(Index.) up
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MINUTE SHEET.

Reference.....

66

H.E.

For the sake of record I submit the following account of the events during my visit to Marseilles and Port de Bouc in connection with the passengers taken off the "President Warfield" in Haifa and returned to France.

Captain Turp and I arrived at the Consulate-General at Marseilles at 2.15 p.m. on Sunday July 27th. The Consul-General, who had been called back from leave that day, had also just arrived and we attempted to put him in the picture as quickly as possible. At the invitation of the Prefecture we then went round to attend a conference with the French authorities. After a great deal of delay, we were received by Monsieur Collavéri, the Secretary-General of the Prefecture, who was in charge of operations throughout in the absence of the Prefect. He was supported by M. Rousseau of the Ministry of the Interior, M. Taddei of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a Secretary. The British party consisted of the Consul-General, Mr. Gallagher, Captain Turp and myself. The meeting took the form of a general review of the arrangements on both sides, and this elicited a number of points which it was necessary to discuss with the escort of the three transports and with the O.C. troops on board. We told M. Collavéri that we were trying to get these officers into Marseilles on the following day in order to get answers to these questions. The conference lasted about half an hour and was a prelude to a meeting of the full French Committee to which we were not invited. In fact this suited our book since we were not concerned with all the detailed arrangements for reception and we could not have spoken so frankly if all the representatives of the Jewish organisations had been present.

At first light on the following morning Captain Collett, R.N. arrived in Marseilles in H.M. Frigate "Cardigan Bay" and tied up in the old port. He brought Lt. Col. Gregson round to the Consulate, and we had a discussion at 9 a.m. This lasted most of the morning as in the meantime the Prefecture had arranged for us to bring these officers round to a meeting at 2.30 p.m. The main points new to us which emerged in our discussion with the British officers were, first, that Col. Gregson greatly disliked the communiqué in its original form and, secondly, that the ships only had enough food and water to last them until, at the latest, Wednesday morning.

The same people as before on the French side were present at the meeting in the afternoon at the Prefecture. The detailed arrangements for bringing the convoy in were confirmed. The Sous-Préfet then explained the procedure he proposed for going on board with the Committee and reading the communiqué. I made it clear that His Majesty's Government strongly disliked the communiqué in its present form and that they were also opposed to the idea of the Committee going on board. When pressed, I explained that, in our view, we attached the utmost importance to the passengers not being subjected to any kind of propaganda which might lead them to prefer staying on board. The Sous-Préfet said that his instructions were categorical in regard to the Committee and the communiqué, and I said I realised this, but we were at present discussing the whole question between our two Governments in Paris. He replied that, in that case, what did we propose to do? We must understand that if we were likely to continue our objections to the Communiqué etc. it was not worth his while keeping all the services standing by from 4 a.m. the next morning. After some discussion, it was agreed that we should continue to plan on the assumption that our two Governments would find some means of agreement in the meantime, and on that basis we raised no further objections, it being understood that the Committee should do no more than go on board and stay while the communiqué was read to the passengers. The question of the police was also discussed. It was/

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was made clear that the police would have to verify each passenger before they left the ship in order to make sure that they had, in fact, left France on the "President Warfield". I said I was sure that there would be no chance of other persons slipping on board the transports in Palestine; I added (erroneously as it turned out) that I thought they had all been transferred at sea; but, as it was likely that many of the passengers had thrown their papers overboard I said I would ask His Majesty's Government whether they could give a formal assurance that there could have been no chance of anyone else getting on to the transports.

After this meeting the "Cardigan Bay" sailed away again with Captain Collett and Col. Gregson. Later in the day, the Consul-General received a deputation of journalists who asked whether they could be given permission to go on board. We also learnt that they were visiting the Prefecture with the same request at 7 p.m. and that if they failed to obtain satisfaction they intended to tackle the Présidence du Conseil at Paris. I rang up Mr. Ashley Clarke and after explaining the position up to date, asked him whether he could get the French Government to agree that journalists should not be allowed on board. Mr. Kay also saw Mr. Roth, the chief delegate of the International Red Cross, who told him that it was the policy of the Red Cross not to serve on purely governmental committees and that, though they were prepared to help, they had therefore not joined the French Committee.

On the following morning, Mr. Kay, ^{Captain Turp} Mr. Ashcroft and myself set out at 4 a.m. for Port de Bouc. We there met the chief French officials including Admiral de Coux, Administrator of the Ports in the south of France. They were mostly very agreeable and allowed us to use the office of the Marine Marchande as our headquarters. M. Taddei informed me that the French Government had agreed to amend the communiqué as we desired and showed me the new and satisfactory text. (This was confirmed by a telegram which was brought over to us from Marseilles later in the morning).

Unfortunately, there was no sign of the ships, which seemed to us incomprehensible, since the Naval Commander had repeatedly urged the French authorities to have all their services ready to start operations no later than 4.30 a.m. It was not in fact until after 7.30 that the first ship was sighted. At 8 a.m. the Sous Préfet, after a preliminary and rapid medical examination had been made of the ship, to satisfy the French that no epidemics existed on board, invited the Consul-General and the rest of the British party to join the Committee in his launch and proceed to the first ship. After some confusion we arrived, went on board and greeted Col. Gregson. Many of the Jews were in the pens on deck, but when the Sous-Préfet attempted to address them, they all ran away into the hold, the idea being presumably that all should hear the message together. We accordingly went down into the hold (which was unbelievably suffocating) and the Sous-Préfet read out his statement in French which was then translated into Yiddish and Hebrew by an interpreter. He asked whether anyone had anything to say, and a spokesman at once jumped to his feet, succeeded in obtaining silence and delivered an impassioned speech, the burden of which was that, grateful as they were for the French offer, it was Palestine to which they wished to go. In a minute, his whole audience, men and women, were weeping hysterically. After his speech they all leapt to their feet and sang "Hatiquvah". There was no possible doubt that the mass answer was "No".

Mr. Kay, ^{Capt. Turp} and myself remained on board to discuss the situation with Col. Gregson, and we drafted an agreed telegram to the Foreign Office giving an account of the visit. Col. Gregson told us, in confidence, that the reason why the ships/

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MINUTE SHEET.

Reference.....

68

ships had been so late was that the master of the "Runnymede Park" had been so drunk the night before that he had muddled his instructions. We left at about 11.30 a.m. for the shore, to which we were given a lift in the doctor's launch. I was surprised to find that several of the doctors who had been on board had OSE stamped on the arms of their white overalls and, in fact, belonged to the society which had arranged the departure of the "President Warfield". We found later that, as was inevitable, most of the services which were arranging for the care and reception of the passengers were largely composed of Jews.

From what had happened on the first transport and from our conversations with Col. Gregson, it was clear that the Jews were in a highly excited and hysterical state, and also that they had fully realised that they were faced with a choice, in spite of the impartial handling of the matter by the Sous-Préfet. Col. Gregson, who knew his Jews, was of the definite opinion that there was now no longer any possibility of a mass movement to go ashore and that if the same procedure was followed on the other boats, the same results would ensue. It became equally clear to us that we could not use force to get them off without French co-operation. We therefore decided there was nothing for it but to ask the French point-blank whether they would accept the passengers if we used force to get them off. On landing, therefore, and after a preliminary sounding of M. Taddei, I saw the Sous-Préfet in his office and put the question to him frankly. He said that his instructions categorically forbade him to accept anybody who did not specifically volunteer to land, and that he could not give us facilities if we made any use of force. He said he was reporting what happened to Paris, and I said we should do the same; and we agreed that the next step would have to be further agreement between our two governments. In the meantime we decided that the other two boats should be visited the same afternoon beginning at 3 p.m. The Sous-Préfet was already becoming exhausted, having been up the whole of the previous night and having spent a long time in his hot, official uniform in the suffocating holds of the "Runnymede Park". But he wished to finish off the three visits on the same day, so as not to waste more time than necessary in Port de Bouc.

The next hour or so was spent in vain attempts to telephone, through the courtesy of the French officials, by the alleged direct line to the Paris Prefecture. I eventually got through just enough to explain the situation to Paris, and sent back to Marseilles for despatch the telegram we had drafted on the "Runnymede Park".

At 3 p.m. we started out for the "Ocean Vigour" and "Empire Rival". The scenes on board were approximately the same, except that on the "Ocean Vigour" a good deal of conversation took place between the Committee and the Jews because a number of the latter showed signs of wanting to disembark. The Sous-Préfet was by this time becoming even more tired and nervous and he rather excitedly insisted formally that he should be given the opportunity to interrogate a number of these people separately in order to verify that they really wished to disembark. He maintained that his instructions were to satisfy himself on this. The O.C. troops was at first strongly opposed to this suggestion, his view being that it was wrong to take off ten of the best volunteers. These should rather be used at a later date to start a run of the whole lot of passengers. It was a matter for him to decide, but in order to give him a clear field I told the Sous-préfet formally that in our opinion the only task of the Commission was to go on board, read the communiqué and go away again. This was not accepted by the Sous-Préfet, and Col. Gregson eventually decided that we should lose more by offending the French than by insisting on his original view. Several people, who had approached the Sous-Préfet before, were brought out of the pens, but the angry shouts/

[OVER

(1609) 23796/1381
 2,050,000 8/40 JC&SLtd
 Cp644/229
 (REGIMENT)
 CODE 5-34-0

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Reference: FO 371/51821

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MINUTE SHEET.

Reference.....

69

shouts, screams and threats of those remaining behind had its effect and they quickly decided that they had changed their minds. During this period a woman fainted in one of the pens, and there were great cries for "water"; this incident was subsequently used by ill-intentioned people to give the impression that the Jews were short of water. At this time, this was quite untrue.

On the way back to the shore, Col. Gregson received a signal to the effect that a boat with a loud-speaker had been circling round the "Ocean Vigour" urging the Jews not to disembark. He and I at once took this up with the Sous-Préfet with considerable vigour and the Consul-General did the same with Admiral de Coux. They promised to do something about it, though Admiral de Coux pointed out his shortage of protecting vessels owing to war damage. During the same part of the voyage, M. Taddei attempted to make a number of helpful suggestions as to how we could encourage the Jews to land, but we were greatly handicapped by the representative of the Ministry of the Interior who stuck like a limpet to our elbows. A signal was also received about the shortage of food on some of the vessels and Col. Gregson was able to take the opportunity of fixing up the details of supplies with the French member of the Commission who was in charge of these matters. During the whole of the four or five hours during which we were either in the launches or on board the transports, many separate conversations took place and all the British party had someone to keep an eye on. Captain Turp was of the greatest help to Col. Gregson in standing by his side and supporting him in his arguments. Mr. Ashcroft spent a good deal of time getting stories from the troops on board and in particular from the O.C. Troops in each case.

During the last part of our return to land, the Sous-Préfet said he had now satisfied himself that no-one wished to land from the three transports. Col. Gregson and I at once challenged this statement, and formally contested his decision not to make any landing craft available for the next day. I explained that we knew there were many people who would like to land if they were not intimidated and quoted a number of concrete instances which had been given us by the O.C. Troops in the three transports. I said we should have to take this up at once with our Government. M. Collavéri, who was by then almost too tired to speak, maintained his refusal quite formally and said that he could do nothing more for us without further instructions.

The boats were a very long way apart and it was not until nearly 8 p.m. that we returned to the shore again and then drove straight back to Marseilles. Later in the evening we dispatched a telegram to the Foreign Office recording the events of the latter part of the day. I had agreed the general lines of this with Col. Gregson, but had not had a chance of writing anything out until then. During this period, M. Collavéri rang up to say that he had arranged for the loudspeaker to be confiscated as well as its equipment. Mr. Ashcroft gave a press conference in the Hotel de Noailles.

on the next morning Captain Collett arrived again in the "Cardigan Bay" at Marseilles and visited the Consulate at 9 a.m. He and the Consul-General discussed all the detailed arrangements about revictualling and refuelling the ships, and the Consul-General, who had spent a good deal of time on the three transports in finding out the names of the transports' agents etc. telephoned all round the town and put the necessary arrangements in hand. He also saw the President of the British Chamber of Commerce at Marseilles who was largely responsible for the revictualling of the troops.

At 11 a.m. Captain Collet visited Admiral Tanguy to ask whether, if he left Marseilles that afternoon, he could come back again and continue to use his wireless.

[OVER

At/

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2,050,000 8/40 JC&SLtd
Gp644/229
(REGIMENT)
CODE 5-34-0

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Reference: FO 371 / 61821

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MINUTE SHEET.

Reference.....

70

- 5 -

At the same time Mr. Kay and I called at the Prefecture at the request of M. Collavéri, who said he would come out of a conference in order to talk to us. He said that a Jewish demonstration in a cinema had been organised for 6.30 p.m. and that the demonstrators were likely to move to the Prefecture or the Consulate-General. Would Mr. Kay like the street in which the Consulate-General was situated to be roped off? Mr. Kay agreed to this. We had, in the meantime, received a signal from Col. Gregson to the effect that a further vessel with loud speakers had been interfering with the transports. Mr. Kay took this up vigorously with the Sous-Préfet who at once telephoned to the police in our presence, told them that their instructions not to allow hostile propaganda were categorical and formal and that a continuous police patrol must be maintained. He told us that he had just learnt that 22 sick people had been asked to leave the ships and that he had at once given instructions for a launch to go out and fetch them. I asked whether he had received further instructions from Paris. He said "No", but nevertheless he agreed to my request that a launch should stand by the first ship the whole time in case further passengers decided to disembark. He also said he was arranging to provide food daily for the next two or three days for the passengers on the three transports, but warned us that this could not go on indefinitely. Finally I took the opportunity of conveying to him an assurance from H.M.G. that no passengers other than those on the "President Warfield" could possibly have got on the transports. M. Collavéri had recovered from his nervousness and weariness of the previous evening and could not have been more helpful and friendly. He admitted that he had been somewhat carried away by the hysterical atmosphere on board, and he now listened readily to the same arguments as I had used on the previous evening about the intimidation which was preventing many volunteers from signifying their readiness to land.

After this interview, Mr. Kay and I went on board the "Cardigan Bay" where we learnt that Captain Collett had received favourable replies from Admiral Tanguy to the two requests mentioned above. We told him of our interview with the Sous-Préfet and asked him to send a signal to Col. Gregson informing him of the more favourable developments for revictualling etc. which had emerged from our talk with M. Collavéri. In the afternoon Captain Collett called again to say that he had received a signal from Col. Gregson reporting that no food had yet arrived for the "Runnymede Park". We were able to check up that this was now out of date. Captain Turp and Mr. Ashcroft then arrived and reported the situation existing at Port de Bouc that day. There had been a few sick who had volunteered to land but the local authorities were now saying that they could not maintain any longer existing facilities for reception. We agreed that this was part of the problem which was then being taken up in Paris. They also reported that the Jews had now quite calmed down on board the transports and there did not seem any present danger of incident. We reported all this by telephone to Paris. I left by the evening train from Marseilles.

J.E. COULSON.

1st August, 1947.

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Reference: FO 371 / 61821

12 AUG 1947
15
Enter
CONFIDENTIAL

EY345

British Embassy,

Paris

71
12th August 1947.

My dear John,

You may like to have for purposes of record the rough note, of which I enclose copies, giving an account of what happened during the period in which the three transports arrived at Port de Bouc with the passengers from the President Warfield. The note has not been agreed with the Consul-General at Marseilles, and I cannot touch entirely for its accuracy, since there were no opportunities for taking notes during this rather crowded visit.

As you will see, it is mainly a record of the questions we had to take up with the French, and does not go much into descriptions of the scene, which would need another long paper. The main local colour was provided by the heat which was terrific.

The whole incident has put a very great strain on the Consul-General and his staff who were mostly on duty between 8 a.m. and midnight when I was there, and of course a great deal longer on July 29th. I can only say that they performed prodigies.

Yours ever
J.E. Coulson

J. E. Coulson.

J. G. S. Beith, Esq.,
Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13555) Wt. 49998-114 200m 2/47 G.S.St. Cp. 620

Registry No. E 7345/48/14

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

Draft.

Mr Coulson
Paris

from JB

OUT FILE

+ Ocolse

my dear John
Many thanks for your
letter of Aug 8th enclosing
a rough note of your
activities at Marseilles
and Port de Bouc.

We were most
interested to read this
first hand account of
events, which I appreciated
which we had of course
followed with close
attention but without

a

August 14th

72

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Reference:

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61821

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73

a detailed picture of the
local scene. We much
appreciate what you
and the Consulate-General
~~have~~^{were} able to achieve
in the face of formidable
obstruction.

Yours ever

John Beith
ABmg 13

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

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371 / 51821

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74

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.
OUT FILE 14th August, 1947.

(E 7345/48/G)

My dear John

Many thanks for your letter of the 8th August enclosing a rough note of your activities at Marseilles and Port de Bouc.

We were most interested to read this first hand account of events, which we had of course followed with close attention but without a detailed picture of the local scene. We much appreciate what you and the Consulate-General were able to achieve in the face of formidable obstruction.

Yours ever,

John Beith

(J. G. S. Beith)

J. E. Coulson, Esq., C.M.G.,
Paris.

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E

E 7359

1947

PALESTINE

13 AUG 1947

75

Registry Number

E7359/48/31

FROM

José Caeiro

No.

da Sabata

Dated

Lisbon

Received in Registry

17 July
13 Aug

Illegal Immigration, Portuguese Co-operation.
Refer to Bevin's letter of June 27.
Transmits strong desire to assist in
further repression of Illegal Immigrant
traffic.

Last Paper.

7746

References.

27/8

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9. Lisbon ~~Handl.~~
Aug 29.
confidential

(Action completed.)

9/26/47

(Index.)

2/24/48

Next Paper.

7399

(Minutes.)

The Portuguese have not really been
true to the text yet, but have proved
reasonably cooperative in the matter of
denying bunkers.

Western Dept.

R.W.S.
30/8.

copy to Lisbon

J. C. Cable
14/8

D. S. Bevin
Aug 14

H.B. 14/8

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Reference:

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371 / 61821

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● Translation.

Ministry for Foreign
Affairs.

Confidential
Personal.

76
E 7359

13 JUL 1947

Lisbon, 17th July, 1947.

Dear Mr. Bevin,

I have the great pleasure of receiving Your Excellency's letter of June 27th, which was delivered to me by the hand of His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador, Sir Nigel Ronald, and I wish first to express my thanks for Your Excellency's kind words on the subject of the co-operation given by the Portuguese authorities with regard to illegal immigration into Palestine.

The Portuguese Government is not unaware how important the repression of this illegal immigration is for the peace of Palestine and the Near East. And therefore - I have great pleasure in declaring it to Your Excellency - my Government will not cease to give as much help as possible in this matter.

Great Britain, always anxious to contribute to the removal of all the obstacles in the way of the final establishment of world peace - and which has done so with great effect/

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371 / 61821

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Ministerio
das
Negocias Estrangeiras
Gabinete do Ministro

Confidencial
Fessoal

Meu caro Sr. Bevin:

Tive o grande prazer de receber a carta de V.Exa. de 27 de Junho findo, que me foi entregue por mão do Embaixador da Sua Magestade Britanica, Sir Nigel Ronald, e desejo, antes de mais, agradecer as palavras amáveis de V.Exa. acerca da cooperação dada pelas autoridades portuguesas a proposito da imigração ilegal na Palestina.

Não desconheço o Governo Português quanto é importante para a paz na Palestina e no Próximo Oriente a repressão dessa ilegal imigração. E porisso - com todo o prazer o declaro a V.Exa. - não deixará o meu Governo de continuar a dar a sua melhor assistência nesta matéria.

A Grã-Bretanha, sempre desceiosa de contribuir para a remoção de todos os obstaculos ao estabelecimento definitivo da paz do mun-

Lisboa, 17 de Julho de 1947

1. Westing Dept (to obtain translation) ^{Translation attached. Proc 9/8}
2. S of B.

CMCA
7/8
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Reference:

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Ministerio
dos
Negocios Estrangeiros
Gabinete do Ministro

do - e eficazmente o tem feito - encontra por parte de Portugal o mesmo veemente desejo. Pode estar disso certo o Governo de Sua Magestade Britanica.

De v. Exa. muito sinceramente

João Caetano de Mello

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E 7399/G

13 AUG 1947

Palestine

365

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80

E 7399/48/G

Illegal immigrant ships in French ports.

Mr Duff Cooper
Paris

President Wafield
Northlands.

809

Dated 12 Aug
Received 13 Aug.

Last Paper.

E 7346

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Del) Paris 1827.
14. Aug
Rtd Bordeaux B.
8/11.P.

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

25/9

14/8

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

I do not agree with para. 3. If the French hope to recoup themselves for any loss they may incur by letting the "Northlands" sail by getting hold of the "President Wafield", then surely we should hang on to her. Legally, I imagine, the "President Wafield" has now been forfeited to the Govt. of Palestine. The French lost their claim to her when they allowed her to get away. In any case, if they want her, they must bear the cost of repairing her and bringing her back to France.

Palmer
(E. ESCABE)

We had better ask the Co. for obs.

on this and pass them on to Paris.

I agree that the French have no particular claim, as far as I can see

Mr Evans

/The H.B. Angley

27437 F.O.F.

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81 The c.o. have now heard from Palestine that the case of the "President Wayfield" will not come before the courts for many weeks. In the mean time, however, the French have allowed the "Northlands" to sail. I suggest that we might now allow this suggestion to lapse and that there is no longer any need to bother Mr. Evans.

J. B. [Signature]
(TELETYPE)

You might ask Paris at a suitable opportunity whether this is in fact dead. We have had no written request from the French, it seems

J. B. Sept. 1

I spoke to Mr. Crossley about this. He thinks we may consider it dead, unless we hear further from them.

J. B. [Signature]
4/9

1. Tel to Palestine 1906 22 Aug.

J. B. [Signature]
13/9

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371 / 61821

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13 AUG 1947

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on.]

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Duff Cooper
No. 809

D. 2.50 p.m. 12th August, 1947.

12th August, 1947.

R. 3.35 p.m. 12th August, 1947.

Repeated to : Jerusalem
Berdeaux

IMPORTANT

MMMMMM

CONFIDENTIAL

Not repeated to F.O.
My telegram No. 33 to Berdeaux.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs request that we should not dispose of the "President Warfield" before proceedings have been completed against Weston Trading Company on account of "President Warfield's" offences against French law.

2. For the moment the "Northlands", which also belongs to this company, is being held as a guarantee for the payment of another fine which might be inflicted. Ministry of Foreign Affairs expect, however, that the company will be able to put up a substantial monetary guarantee, and the "Northlands" would then be released. In the event of the fine to be inflicted by the Tribunal exceeding the monetary guarantee, the French Government would like to have something in hand. Hence their request, which will be confirmed in writing.

3. His Majesty's Minister informed the competent official that he did not think there would be any difficulty in acceding to the request, particularly as the "President Warfield" is not fit to sail. But without prejudice to that, His Majesty's Minister expressed strong hope that French authorities would continue to hold the "Northlands" on general grounds, and suggested that the case now pending before the French Tribunals gave an admirable excuse for doing so.

4.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 51821

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83

4. Competent official said that release of the ship was "almost" automatic once a monetary guarantee had been put up, and he did not think that the French authorities would be willing to depart from tradition. His Majesty's Minister rejoined that the French Government were by now well aware of the importance we attached to preventing the departure of the "Northlands" and if they did not use this particular means for doing so they would have to find another expedient, which might perhaps be less easy.

5. I hope Berdeaux may soon be able to report action by Panamanian Consul on basis of my telegram under reference.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 31.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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Reference:

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51821

3149 Wt. 26489/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S. NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. E 7399/48/G

Top Secret.
Secret.
Confidential.
Restricted.
Open.

J.E.C.

F.O.,

84

Despatched 12200

Draft.

PARIS

Confidential

Telegram. No. 1827
(Date) Aug 14
Repeat to: -
Bordeaux No 22

Your telegram no. 809 of 12th August: Jewish illegal immigration

We understand from a confidential source that "NORTHLANDS" has taken a quantity of meat on board. This suggests intention to embark passengers.

En Clair.
Code.
Cypher.

Distribution:-

Departmental No. 1

14/8

Copies to:-

I.I.P.

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Green

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

85

E 7399/48/G

Confidential
Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS

No.1827

D.12.20 a.m. 18th August, 1947

14th August, 1947

Repeated to Bordeaux No.22

.....

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No.809 [of 12th August: Jewish illegal immigration].

We understand from a confidential source that "Northlands" has taken a quantity of meat on board. This suggests intention to embark passengers.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61821

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OUTWARD TELEGRAM

mw 86

75021/84/47

Cyprus (O. T. P.)

Y399/48/9
27 AUG 1947

TO PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

Sent 22nd August, 1947. 10.00 hrs.

No. 1906 Secret.

Addressed High Commissioner Palestine.
Repeated Paris.

Paris telegram No. 809 to Foreign Office of
12th August, repeated to Jerusalem unnumbered.

PRESIDENT WARFIELD.

Grateful for your observations on French request
that you should not dispose of vessel before proceedings
have been completed against owners.

You will recall that French originally expressed
desire to have ship returned (my top secret telegram No. 1600
refers), but have since been told she is unseaworthy.
Present request shows, however, that they still have this
question in mind.

(Copies sent to Foreign Office for onward transmission).

Distributed to: -/

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Reference:

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371 / 61821

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Distributed to:-

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 Lord President
 Admiralty
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 War Office
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 " " (M.I. 3.)
 Air Ministry
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 Cabinet Offices
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 M.I. 5.
 Ministry of Transport
 Foreign Office Research Dept.

- P.S. to Prime Minister.
 - Private Secretary.
 - " "
 - " "
 - First Sea Lord.
 - Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.
 - Private Secretary.
 - C.I.C.S.
 - Lt. Col. W.M. Charteris.
 - Lt. Col. Gore.
 - Private Secretary.
 - Chief of Air Staff.
 - Sir N. Brock.
 - Mr. S.E.V. Luke.
 - Mr. T.A.G. Charlton.
 - Commander Evershed.
 - Private Secretary.
 - Mr. C.W. Baxter.
 - Mr. Beith.
 - Private Secretary.
 - Sir H. Wilson Smith.
 - Defense Registry.
 - Mr. T.A. Robertson.
 - Mr. Graham.
 - Air Commodore K.C. Bass.

RECEIVED H O B
 20 AUG 1947

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1947

366 31

Palestine
EASTERN

EY400 / G

AUG 1947

EY400/48/C

Illegal immigration into 88
Palestine

Chaucery
Wilson
to E Dept
84/103/47
dated 7 Aug.

Mr Marshall's reply to Mr Bevin

Last Paper.

EY399

(Minutes.)

References.

E5001/48/C

This letter adds nothing new. The State Dept. make the most of the action they have taken in revoking the licences for 4 LSTs and in issuing instructions to the U.S. Zone

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

N.A. Dept. dated 16/8

J.S. Bevin
Angit

German Refugee Dept.

copy C.O. (Mr Trafford Smith)

Does refusal of entry into the D.R. camp imply refusal of entry into the zones?

H.S. Bevin 14/8

(Action completed.)

2F25/8

(Index.)

WST

Next Paper.

P.T.O.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61821

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89 German Refugee Department

There is no prohibition on entry into the Zones, but any infiltrators found would be treated as ordinary Germans and not given D.P. status.

C.C.G. feel that if wider publicity could be given to the refusal to grant admittance to D.P. Camps the deterrent effect would be greater.

D. Kramer.

20/8

Eastern Department

Dr. G. G. G.
Aug 21

Mr Rennie ✓ 20/8
Info. Policy Dept.

News Dept. 21/8

RG
21/8

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Reference:

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27400 90
BRITISH EMBASSY
13 AUG 1947
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

7th August 1947

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: 84/123/47

Dear Department,

We enclose herein Mr. Marshall's reply to Mr. Bevin's letter of 27th June about illegal immigration into Palestine which was enclosed in your letter E 5001/48/G of 30th June.

We are continuing to take every opportunity of urging the State Department to press for quick consideration by the Treasury and Justice Departments of American activities in support of illegal immigration.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY
Da.

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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FO

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Ref: 84/123/47

British Embassy
Washington.

Enclosure to Washington Chancery's
letter of August 17th

91

The Eastern Department,
The Foreign Office,
London, S.W. 1.

92

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 7, 1947

SECRET

Dear Mr. Bevin:

I have received your letter of June 27, 1947, in which you expressed your deep concern over the question of illegal immigration into Palestine, and asked whether you could count upon the assistance of my government in preventing the situation from deteriorating still further. You requested particularly that United States officials and representatives on charitable and refugee organizations in Europe be requested to discourage the unauthorized movement of Jewish refugees leading to their departure on illegal immigrant ships for Palestine.

You

The Right Honorable

Ernest Bevin,

Secretary of State for

Foreign Affairs.

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- 2 -

You are undoubtedly aware of the complexities and difficulties involved in stopping this solicitation of funds or outfitting of vessels for use in transporting illegal immigrants. Our Treasury and Justice Departments have been requested to study the matter in order to see whether ways exist in which to meet the requests which your Government has made in this connection. I am endeavoring to expedite their decisions in this regard.

Recently export licenses which had been issued for four LST's were revoked by this Department when evidence was received indicating that they were intended for use in the illegal immigrant traffic. We shall endeavor to see that no vessels owned by the United States Government are sold in the future to persons whose activities provide grounds for believing that the ships would be used for the purpose of transporting illegal immigrants to Palestine.

I may

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- 3 -

I may also add that the War Department on April 15, 1947 instructed the United States military authorities in the American Zones of Germany and Austria that admittance was to be refused to displaced persons camps after April 21, 1947 except in certain special cases. It is believed that this action in the American Zones of Germany and Austria may have the effect of restricting the general flow of refugees in Europe.

Although United States representatives in Europe are familiar with the President's statement of June 5, 1947, I am calling it to their special attention, and have directed them to comply fully with the policy therein set forth, since the movement of illegal immigrants towards Palestine at the present time tends further to complicate an already delicate situation.

I hope

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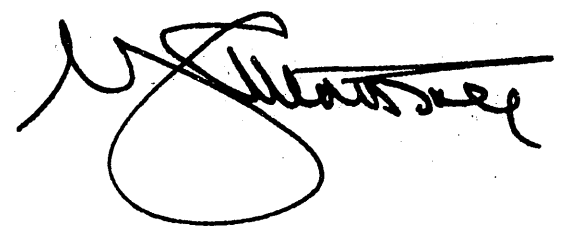
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I hope that these measures will prove helpful in discouraging further unauthorized movements of Jewish refugees and the departure of illegal immigrant ships for Palestine.

Faithfully yours,



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1947

367

Palestine
EASTERN

EY411 /G

96

EY411 148/9

President Warfield

Mr Kay
Marseilles
135

Dated 12 Aug
Received 13 Aug.

Last Paper.

EY400

(Minutes.)

References.

EY290/48/35
EY339/48/9.
EY015/48/31

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) IIP. 14 Aug

Albe
(C.F.E. CABLE)

the brief to be submitted to the
S/S takes account of this tel. by
suggesting we tell the Jewish
Agency of the eventual decision
to send the Jews to Hamburg
and enlist their help in persuading
the Jews to land.

J.B. Angley

- See within
- 1. Marseilles 136
 - 2. Marseilles 137
 - 3. Marseilles 140

13 Aug
14 Aug
15 Aug.

(Action completed.)

DF 17/8

(Index.)

lfp.

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

13 AUG 1947
DEPARTMENTAL No. 2.

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Kay
No. 135

D: 7.30 a.m. 13th August, 1947

12th August, 1947

R: 9.00 a.m. 13th August, 1947

Repeated to Paris.

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET

Your telegram No. 116.

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

Commanding Officer Troops considers that immigrants will not land without either:

(a) use of force or,

(b) full co-operation of Jewish organisations in persuading passengers to leave the transports.

I have also discussed with him proposal contained in Paris telegram No. 808 to you that Jews should be informed of their ultimate destination in the hope that this will persuade them to disembark. We are both of opinion that such a statement will have no effect unless Jewish agency and Hagannah are first persuaded that it is in the interest of the immigrants to disembark and are prepared to help in inducing passengers to leave the transports. You will recall that immigrants refused to believe the Officer Commanding Troop's statement that they would not return either to Palestine or Cyprus (my telegram No. 114 refers).

2. There have been no new developments at the port de Bouc and no further disembarkations.

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P/w 98

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's Consul General D. 6.15 p.m. 13th August 1947
No. 136 R. 8.40 p.m. 13th August 1947

13th August 1947
Repeated to Paris

EY411 / G

o o o o o o

IMMEDIATE
RESTRICTED

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

My telegram No. 135. *6/9*

No disembarkations and no developments today.

*pin sent
space if attached
if being done*

JD 1/15

26/11/47

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E 744 G

CODE R.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 3

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's
Consul-General,
No. 157.
August 14th, 1947.

D. 8.10. p.m. August 14th, 1947.

R. 9.10. p.m. August 14th, 1947.

Repeated Paris.

—000—

L.I.P. being
done

RESTRICTED.

Illegal Jewish immigration.

My telegram No. 156 no further developments to-
day.

E/G

RECEIVED
18 AUG 1947

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Code/R

R/p

E-Yuu G
DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

100

FROM MARSEILLES TO FOREIGN OFFICE

His Majesty's Consul-General
No. 140
15th August, 1947

D. 7.20 p.m. 15th August, 1947
R. 9.30 p.m. 15th August, 1947

Repeated to Paris

aaaaaa

*I was told.
HP being done*

IMMEDIATE

RESTRICTED

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

My telegram No. 137.

One sick woman disembarked today otherwise no
developments.

[Handwritten signature]

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Piece **61821**

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Palestine

EY43/G

EASTERN

161

EY43/48/C

Suspect clipping: S. S. Amia

Chancery W'ion
to E Dept

91241 147

Dated 6 Aug
Received 13 Aug.

Last Paper.

EY412

References.

E5939/48/C.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

MIS
C.O.
Cabin
M/ins
20 Aug.

(Action completed.)

2F 27/8

(Index.)

W.H.

Next Paper.

(Minutes.)

Refers to: M.I.5 (Mr. Schen)
C.O. (Mr. Higham)
Subst Office (Mr. Llewellyn)
Min. of 7/8 (Mr. J.W. Wood)
Mr. ROBERTS
13/8

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EY43

BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

13 AUG 1947
6th August 1947

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Ref: G124/ /47

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Department,

Will you please refer to Foreign Office telegram No. 7005 of 12th July about the S.S. ANITA. (This ship is of Panamanian registry and is owned by the Compania de Navegacion Ellanita S.A. of Panama - not Ellerman as stated in Foreign Office telegram No. 455 to Brussels of 12th July).

Our Shipping Attache has been in touch with Rueff of the Belgian Economic Mission in New York, who confirms that this vessel is on charter to his Mission to make six consecutive voyages with coal from Philadelphia to Belgium. She has gone to Antwerp to complete repairs and is not expected to be ready to load in the United States until October. The Belgian Economic Mission intend to keep to the charter, provided that coal is available by the time the vessel is ready to load. Only unforeseen circumstances such as that would cause them to cancel the charter. Rueff added that the Mission had been approached a short time ago to cancel the charter, but that they had not done so.

We are sending a copy of this letter to Brussels.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY
Ja

Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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1947

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E 7420

14 AUG 1947

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Registry Number

E 7420/48/31

FROM

Conseil

No.

Marseilles

Dated

5.11.

Received in Registry

Aug 14

- 14

Resolution by Fédération de Sociétés Juives de France
Copy of letter to Embassy Paris FGKB/Paris 5/6 of Aug 14. Embassy resolution by Fédération de Sociétés Juives de France, -
at Langrenois et Port de Boue.

Last Paper

7413

(Minutes.)

References

Western Dept.
1/27 Aug.

J. B. [Signature]
(C.T.E.-CABLE)
25/8

16 Aug 25

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

J. E. M. 27/8

(Index)

[Signature]
27/8/48

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British Consulate-General,
Marseilles.

4th August, 1947. 104

S. 16.

E

With the compliments
of
H.M. Consul-General.

E 7420
14 AUG 1947

The Eastern Department,
Foreign Office,
London.

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CONFIDENTIAL

British Consulate-General
Marseilles.

4th August, 1947. 105

FGKG/jarb.
S. 16.

Dear Chancery,

We enclose a copy of a Resolution which has been sent to us by the Fédération de Sociétés Juives de France (Bureau de Marseille).

This Resolution was passed at a meeting convened by the C.G.T., the Communist Party, and various local Jewish organisations at the Cinema Châtelet on the evening of 30th July. Despite wide press publicity, not more than 200 people attended this meeting and, contrary to expectations, it was not followed by demonstrations either at the Prefecture or at this Consulate-General.

The local newspapers announced that the Resolution would be transmitted to us on the following morning by a delegation consisting of members of Jewish Societies. In actual fact, we received the Resolution two days later by registered post.

We are copying this letter and enclosure to Eastern Department, Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

Marseilles. 

The Chancery,
British Embassy,
PARIS.

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C O P Y

RECOMMANDÉE

106
END

R E S O L U T I O N

Réunis à l'appel des organisations politiques, sociales et culturelles de Marseille, en un meeting le Mercredi 30 Juillet à 18 H 30 au Cinéma Châtelet - 3, Avenue Cantini, nous nous permettons de demander à Monsieur le Consul Général d'Angleterre de bien vouloir porter à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, le sentiment de douloureuse indignation éprouvée par la population marseillaise à l'annonce de l'attaque par la Marine de Guerre britannique, des émigrants sans défense, comprenant des hommes, des femmes et des enfants qui se trouvaient à bord de l' "EXODUS 47", alors que le bateau n'était pas encore dans les eaux palestiniennes.

Ces hommes, ces femmes et ces enfants qui avaient enduré les pires souffrances dans les camps hitlériens, ont été l'objet de traitement d'une rare brutalité de la part des soldats et marins britanniques. Réembarqués sur des bateaux-prisons, ils ont été refoulés contre leur volonté. Bien qu'accueillis avec sollicitude par le peuple de France, ces victimes du fascisme sont actuellement en proie au désespoir le plus profond.

Nous élevons une protestation véhémement contre de tels agissements qui rappellent ceux des S.S. et de la Gestapo de sinistre mémoire.

Nous demandons qu'il soit permis à tout être humain de vivre dans le pays de son choix, sans autres restrictions que d'exiger de lui qu'il se comporte de façon honnête. Les hommes, les femmes et les enfants de l'"EXODUS 47" doivent pouvoir gagner librement la Palestine si tel est leur désir. Nous demandons avec force, pour les malheureux réfugiés se trouvant à bord des trois bateaux-prisons anglais, en rade devant PORT DE BOUC, un traitement conforme à la dignité de la personne humaine et des droits de l'homme.

La Fédération des Sociétés Juives de France
l'Union des Juifs pour la Résistance, et
l'Entraide,

et

la C.G.T., le Parti Communiste Français, C.A.D.I., le KEREN Kayemeth, U.S.J., Amicale des F.T.P.F., E.I., le Conseil Général des Juifs et Chrétiens, etc....

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